



**LOVE FIRST.
SERVE FIRST.**

**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
OF MONTCLAIR & VERONA**



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**WE WELCOME YOU ALL TO OUR SUNDAY SERVICE
AND APPRECIATE YOUR VIRTUAL PRESENCE AND PARTICIPATION.**

March 21, 2021 + Fifth Sunday in Lent + 10:00 AM

Bolded text - said in unison by all
* If able, please stand where indicated.

UMH - *United Methodist Hymnal*

TFWS – *The Faith We Sing*

CALLED TO PRAISE AND PRAY

Prelude

"Wondrous Love" – David Paxton

Welcome and Announcements

***Call to Worship**

Leader: We are alive to see this new day – Shout hallelujah my brothers and sisters.

People: Hallelujah! We are God's people.

Leader: Behold, the Lord has made a new covenant with us.
Our hearts and minds will be renewed and restored.

Rejoice and be glad for now we will know and see God's awesome power more clearly.

People: Hallelujah! We are God's people.

***Opening Hymn**

O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

UMH 57

O for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer's praise,
The glories of my God and King, The triumphs of His grace.

Jesus! the name that charms our fears, that bids our sorrows cease;
'Tis music in the sinner's ears, 'Tis life and health and peace.

Opening Prayer

Leader: O God of our Hearts You yearn to be so close to us that we can know you in every breath, in every hope, in every relationship. Meet us here today and teach us to recognize the covenant of justice, peace and love you have written on our hearts. So may our desires become your desires, our work become your work, and our community the place where you are sought and found. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Prayer of Confession

All: Lord, we know Easter is coming soon and while we anxiously wait to celebrate your triumphant victory over sin and death, there are still difficult days between now and then. There is nothing perfect about us, yet you beckon us with hands that soon will be scarred by betrayal, greed, selfishness, pettiness, pride, and apathy. You see us and our imperfections with compassionate and patient eyes as we struggle to rid our lives of all the worldly things that distort, distract, and entangle us. As the cross looms ahead, our eyes and our focus are on you and you alone for our redemption and salvation.

(Pausing for Silent Prayer...)

Words of Assurance

Leader: In the grace of God, through the love of Jesus Christ, and by the power of the Holy Spirit, we are saved from brokenness and sin and are restored to the joy of God's salvation.

People: We are restored to the joy of God's salvation. Praise the Lord; Amen!

Sharing Our Joys & Concerns

Please share your joys and concerns in any of the following ways:

- Share it in the church's WhatsApp group (First UMC of Montclair).
- Write it as a comment on the wall of the Facebook Livestream.

Pastoral Prayer

Lord's Prayer

Children's Message

Dr. Leslie Lester

Responsive Hymn

Open Our Eyes

TFWS 2086

Open my eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus, to reach out and touch him,
And say that we love him. Open our ears, Lord, and help us to listen.
Open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus.

CALLED TO THE WORD

*Psalter Reading

Psalm 51:1-12

Leader: Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.

People: Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.

Leader: For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.

People: Against you, you alone, have I sinned, and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are justified in your sentence and blameless when you pass judgment.

Leader: Indeed, I was born guilty, a sinner when my mother conceived me.

People: You desire truth in the inward being; therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart.

Leader: Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

People: Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones that you have crushed rejoice.

Leader: Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.

People: Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me.

Leader: Do not cast me away from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from me.

People: Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit.

Hymn of Illumination

The Summons

TFWS 2130

Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?

Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?

Will you let my love be shown? Will you let my name be known,

will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?

Old Testament Lesson

Jeremiah 31:31-34

Bobbette Kelly

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt--a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, "Know the LORD," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

*Gospel Lesson

John 12:20-33

Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and

dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor. "Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say--'Father, save me from this hour'? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name." Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again." The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, "An angel has spoken to him." Jesus answered, "This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

Sermon

"Trust and Obey"

Rev. Myungim Kim

***Passing the Peace of Christ**

CALLED TO SHARE

Offering

***Doxology**

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

UMH 95

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow, Praise God, all creatures here below:
Praise him above ye heavenly host, praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***Prayer of Dedication**

CALLED TO WITNESS IN THE WORLD

***Closing Hymn**

O Jesus, I Have Promised

UMH 396

O Jesus, I have promised to serve Thee to the end.
Be Thou forever near me, my Master and my Friend.
I shall not fear the battle If Thou art by my side,
Nor wander from the pathway If Thou wilt be my Guide.

O Jesus, Thou hast promised to all who follow Thee
That where Thou art in glory there shall Thy servant be;
And Jesus, I have promised to serve thee to the end.
Oh, give me grace to follow, my Master and my Friend.

***Sending Forth**

Rev. Myungim Kim

***Circle of Blessing**

Shalom to You

UMH 666

Shalom to you now, shalom, my friends. May God's full mercies bless you, my friends.
In all your living and through your loving, Christ be your shalom, Christ be your shalom.

Postlude

"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" – Gerald Peterson

Please continue to pray for all those affected by the pandemic.